

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9507

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 15654

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ABLD, AFSP, UR, US

SUBJECT: HARTMAN-KORNIYENKO MEETING: CHANCERIES CONSTRUCTION

REF: (A) STATE 246019, (B) MOSCOW 12561

1. THE HOUSING SCHEDULE LISTED REF B IS CORRECT, I.E. THE EMBASSY IN
FEBRUARY 1975 FORMALLY ASKED UPDK TO PROVIDE APARTMENTS
ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

NUMBER OF APARTMENTS	DELIVERY DATE
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6	SEPTEMBER 1975
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6	MARCH 1976
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5	DECEMBER 1976
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4	JUNE 1977
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OF THIS REQUEST, WE HAVE RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING APARTMENTS:

NUMBER OF APARTMENTS	DELIVERY DATE
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1	SEPTEMBER 1975
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6	MAY 1976
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WE ARE NOW 5 APARTMENTS SHORT AND WILL BE 10 SHORT IN DECEMBER
1976. WE BELIEVE THAT KORNIYENKO'S STATEMENT THAT THE EMBASSY HAS
RECEIVED 10, RATHER THAN 7 APARTMENTS, IS BASED ON ONE OF TWO
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PREMISES:

A. IN THE CASE OF THE APARTMENTS WE RECEIVED IN MAY 1976 IT TOOK TWO SOVIET APARTMENTS TO RECONFIGURE INTO ONE 3-BEDROOM APARTMENT. SINCE WE RECEIVED THREE 3-BEDROOM APARTMENTS IT MAY BE THAT KORNIYENKO IS COUNTING SOVIET APARTMENTS RATHER THAN US APARTMENTS. IF SO, HE IS INCORRECT SINCE THE EMBASSY'S LETTER OF FEBRUARY 27, 1975 SPECIFICALLY STATED THE STANDARDS IN SQUARE METERS OF LIVING SPACE HOWEVER IT WAS RECONFIGURED FROM SOVIET APARTMENTS. ADDITIONALLY, MR. A. I. IVANUSHKIN, CHIEF OF THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT, UPDK, REPEATEDLY REFERRED TO THEM AS 6 APARTMENTS WHEN OFFERING THEM TO THE EMBASSY IN MAY.

B. THE OTHER POSSIBLE MISCALCULATION BY KORNIYENKO GOES BACK SEVERAL YEARS. IN JANUARY 1974 THE EMBASSY REQUESTED 5 APARTMENTS TO BE MADE AVAILABLE DURING 1974. THREE OF THOSE WERE NOT DELIVERED UNTIL AFTER THE EMBASSY'S LETTER OF FEBRUARY 27, 1975. BOTH IN ORAL CONVERSATIONS AND LATER IN WRITING THE EMBASSY TOLD IVANUSHKIN "AMBASSADOR STOESEL'S LETTER OF FEBRUARY 1975 PROJECTED OUR REQUIREMENTS OVER AND ABOVE THE 3 APARTMENTS WHICH WERE PROMISED WELL BEFORE FEBRUARY, BUT NOT RECEIVED UNTIL APRIL 1975." IN SUM NO MATTER WHICH FORMULATION KORNIYENKO IS FOLLOWING HE IS INCORRECT IN STATING THAT THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED 10 APARTMENTS RATHER THAN 7 AS SHOWN ABOVE.

2. EMBASSY CHECKED WITH IVANUSHKIN TODAY AND WAS TOLD THAT WE WOULD BE INFORMED WHEN THE SOVIETS ARE PREPARED TO DISCUSS TURNING OVER "A CERTAIN NUMBER" OF NEW APARTMENTS. HE ADDED THAT ALTHOUGH DISCUSSION ABOUT THESE NEW APARTMENTS MIGHT BE HELD BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR, THE APARTMENTS WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE IN 1976. THIS SEEMS TO INDICATE LITTLE, IF ANY, CHANGE FROM THE SOVIET POSITION DESCRIBED IN PARA 5 REF-TEL B, I.E. WE SHOULD NOT EXPECT ANY ADDITIONAL APARTMENTS BEFORE THE END OF CALENDAR YEAR 1976.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY PROBLEM FOR THE CHANCERY, WE HAVE NO INDICATION OF ANY PROGRESS IN THIS REGARD.

4. COMMENT - WE STRONGLY CONCUR WITH THE DEPARTMENT THAT THE SOVIETS SHOULD REPLY IN WRITTEN FORM ON THE ITEMS WE HAVE PRESENTED. WE WOULD ALSO POINT OUT THAT EXCPET FOR THE SOVIET CONFIDENTIAL

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AGREEMENT ON THE UPDK SURCHARGE WHICH HAD BEEN INDICATED IN EARLIER DISCUSSIONS (SEE MOSCOW 0115, PARA 5, AND MOSCOW 1403, PARA 9) THE SOVIETS HAVE YET TO RESPOND FAVORABLY TO A SINGLE ITEM ON THE DEPARTMENT'S LIST.
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